I agree that a delegate to the U.N. General Assembly has to be a politician and has to be often prepared for the rough and tumble of the U.N. debates. There is also the fact that it may not be congenial to work under such leadership as exists at present.

I have intimate acquaintance with all the Commissions referred to in the letter. In fact, I set them up as the first President of the Economic and Social Council. The Human Rights Commission, the Economic Commission and the Social Commission are three of the Commissions earliest to be set up. The Charter itself provides for the setting up of these Commissions. Article 68 says, "the Economic and Social Council shall set up Commissions in economic and social fields and for the promotion of human rights and such other Commissions as may be required for the purpose of its functions."

The Human Rights Commission, though it is one of the foremost Commissions, has unfortunately got mixed with political questions of a very acutely controversial character. The rights of man, social distinction, colour bar, the Apartheid in South Africa, colonialism and political status, the freedom of press and restrictions which can be laid on the press - all these have been the subject of controversial and acrimonious discussion in this Commission. The Declaration of Human Rights was made in such general terms that it was accepted by the General Assembly several years ago, I believe in 1949. The Human Rights Commission was then asked to frame a covenant of human rights, more specifically detailing the provisions of the Declaration of Human Rights, and, for the last seven years, it has been unable to come to any conclusion acceptable to the Commission or to the Economic and Social Council or to the General Assembly. As I have stated, this does involve legal questions of a very technical character and controversial political questions.

I think, the Social Commission is one of the best. There are, of course, controversies even here, but they are on a plane where philosophical observations should be appreciated and a general broad outlook will not be in dissonance with the attitude of the members. It is, therefore, as I have already stated, one of the main Commissions. I have with me the whole of literature on the subject, and the proceedings for many years and these can be studied in time for the next meeting. The Social Commission meets in New York every year and the agenda concerns social problems which are not very complicated in their nature but which require a breadth of outlook on the part of the delegates.

The Committee on Information from Non-Self-governing Territories is only a sub-committee. It has not got the status of the Commission as the other three I have indicated. The delegates to this Committee are of less status - representatives of government at lower level, but even sometimes politicians do attend this when controversial questions are taken up for discussion, and this is such a Committee where there is always a controversy: the colonial powers refusing to submit information and representatives of non-colonial states pressing for information. It is on the whole a thankless task, which brings one into acute controversy with the British, the French or the Belgians, as the case may be. The government attitude on this subject very often puts the individual delegate in a very difficult position. I would, therefore, strongly advocate the membership of the Social Commission as the most dignified and the best suited for your temperament. I shall be only too happy to furnish any other information that may be required.